

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Hideo ANDO, et al.

SERIAL NO: New DIV Application

GAU:

FILED: Herewith

EXAMINER:

FOR: INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, INFORMATION RECORDING METHOD AND APPARATUS, AND INFORMATION PLAYBACK METHOD AND APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

**REFERENCES**

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references were provided in previous U.S. Application Nos. 09/365,708, filed August 3, 1999, 09/817,113, filed May 27, 2001, and 10/172,929, filed June 18, 2002.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**RELATED CASES**

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**CERTIFICATION**

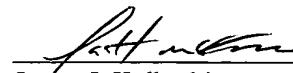
- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 249617US2S DIV		SERIAL NO. New DIV Application	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT					
		Hideo ANDO, et al.					
		FILING DATE		GROUP		Herewith	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,440,631	08/1995	Akiyama, et al.			
	AB	5,771,334	06/1998	Yamauchi, et al.			
	AC	5,857,021	01/1999	Kataoka, et al.			
	AD	6,047,103	04/2000	Yamauchi, et al.			
	AE	6,088,312	07/2000	Utsumi, et al.			
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION		
	AO	6-103317	04/15/94	Japan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	
	AP	8-221948	08/30/1996	Japan (w/English Translation)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	
	AQ	6-349248	12/1994	Japan			
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
<b>OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>							
	AW	Explanation of Circumstances Concerning Accelerated Examination for Japanese Patent Application No. AD09805001					
	AX	Explanation of Circumstances Concerning Accelerated Examination for Japanese Patent Application No. AD00103788					
	AY	Explanation of Circumstances Concerning Accelerated Examination for Japanese Patent Application No. AD00103787					
	AZ					<input type="checkbox"/> Additional References sheet(s) attached	
Examiner				Date Considered			
*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							